

**CANAAN BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, January 24th, 2012**

At 7:00 PM Chairman Reagan called the public meeting to order. Selectman Scott Borthwick, Selectman Marcia Wilson and TA Michael Samson. Members of the Public in attendance included Al Posnanski, Steve Gratalos, Ellen Woodward, Robert Scott, Phil Salvail and Ellie Davis.

Minutes January 10th, 2012

Motion by Marcia Wilson with second by Scott Borthwick to approve the minutes of January 10th as amended. Unanimous approval.

Highway

Sand.

Two members of the public addressed the Board about providing more sand at more convenient hours. The Board indicated that the sand was provided as an incidental convenience as it was illegal to use tax dollars to provide large quantities of sand for private driveways at no expense to the homeowners. Scott reinforced that the sand was a courtesy and not a right and had never been a right. They noted that the reason that the pile was moved from the area by the police station was to assure that it wasn't being taken by the truck load. Bob Scott indicated that he was hauling the sand to the transfer station at the rate of a dump truck a day and the pile was running very low for the rest of the winter (more than 2 months to go). Steve and Ellen indicated that the sand pile was frozen and there was no light at the transfer station where the pile is located. They also indicated that their grandson had slipped and sprained his wrist. The Board indicated that the sand was available on a first come first served basis and was for homeowners only and should be limited to just a few buckets. Steve and Ellen stated that they felt they should be able to get sand in a larger quantity.

Safe Routes to School Grant

Bob Scott described the proposed grant application for \$9,500 in funding to have the UVLSRPC do a needs assessment, education program and feasibility study for safer paths to the Canaan Elementary School. There was discussion of the perimeter around the school that would be studied and the fact that no local match would be required for this phase of the work. Motion by Marcia Wilson with a second by Bob Reagan to approve the grant application. Marcia and Bob in favor and Scott against. Motion carried.

Pricing on Gate at Transfer Station Road

Bob reviewed the results of shopping the gate and the necessary hardware and electrical and recommended that the Town contract with Superior Fence at \$14,625 plus the Langlois quote for the power installation. The overall price would be less than the Springfield price (\$16,775) without the power installation added. Motion by Scott Borthwick to contract with Superior and Langlois. Second by Marcia Wilson and unanimously approved.

Options for Sidewalk Snow Removal

Bob Scott requested that the Board authorize the purchase of a sander and snow blower for the Wastewater Kubota tractor to be used for snow removal on the sidewalks.

Townline Equipment had given a proposal for \$6,715 for the sander and snow blower. Samson indicated that the least expensive ATV type plow and sander would be in excess of \$20,000. There was discussion of blowing the snow versus plowing and Bob Scott indicated that it has traditionally been done by snow blowing although with a smaller snow blower. He indicated that is adequate space to blow the snow. The Board discussed that they had sought proposals from private contractors in the past and the proposals were always higher than the Town's cost. The Board asked Bob to get at least two other quotes from Kubota dealers and they would sign a purchase order on the lowest priced option.

Electrical in Highway Room and Storage Area

Bob indicated that he had obtained two different quotes trying to cut the cost of the electrical changes in the Highway Garage. The lowest cost he was able to get was for \$1,400 from Langlois. It was noted that so far Bob had authorization for \$2,000 and had actually spent about \$2,100. Scott Borthwick moved to authorize a total of \$3,500 for the new room. Marcia Wilson seconded the motion and the motion carried unanimously. Scott also noted that the compressor was continuously blowing the breaker at the main panel. Apparently, the compressor needs a 50 amp breaker for the size of the compressor. Langlois gave Bob a price of \$752 to change over the wiring and breaker size to accommodate the compressor. There was some discussion as to whether the location could be changed to drop the expense and it was decided that it was not practical. Motion by Scott Borthwick to approve the \$752 and seconded by Marcia Wilson. Unanimous approval.

Approval of Cross Country Contract

Samson brought up the Cross Country Contract for approval and indicated that he had checked comparable costs over the last 4 years and the budget currently has sufficient money in the line item to cover the Cross Country cost for 2012. Scott Borthwick moved to approve and authorize Bob Reagan to sign the contract. Marcia Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Town Report Dedication

Samson asked what the Board's pleasure was for a Town Report Dedication. Marcia Wilson moved to dedicate the Report to Ed Labrie and seconded by Scott Borthwick. Unanimously approved.

Part time help

Samson indicated that he has met with several high school students who would be willing to work up to 5 hours a week doing filing or minor repairs on government buildings. Samson asked if that is something that the Board is interested in following up on. The Board indicated that he should continue to look at it and bring candidates before the Board for approval.

Other Business

4-H asked permission to sell food at the deliberative session. The consensus was yes. There was general discussion on the expense of the transfer station modifications including the trailer which total \$50,000 and the three and a half year pay-back period at the annual savings of \$14,500 a year.

Samson asked that the 2012 wage schedule be approved for employees so that we can start the new wage increase. The Board signed the schedule.

Motion at 8:45 PM to enter into executive session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (c) (d) & (e) by Scott Borthwick and second by Marcia Wilson. Unanimously approved.

At 9:35 PM Selectman Borthwick made a motion to come out of non-public session.

The motion was seconded by Selectman Wilson and voted 3-0 by roll call vote. At 9:37 PM Selectman Wilson made a motion to seal the minutes of the non public session. The motion was seconded by Selectman Borthwick and voted 3-0 by roll call vote.

Motion by Marcia Wilson to place Doug King on paid administrative leave until 12:01 AM February 1st, 2012 per the recommendation of the Road Agent to allow Doug to meet with the Board to review his performance over the past year. Scott Borthwick seconded the motion. Unanimously approved. Motion by Scott Borthwick to require the Mechanic and Road Agent to mark the purpose and vehicle on purchase orders where the purpose of the purchase is unclear. Marcia seconded the motion unanimously approved.

At 9:40 PM Selectman Wilson made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Scott Borthwick and voted 3-0 by the Board.

Robert Reagan, Chairman

Scott Borthwick

Marcia Wilson
Canaan Board of Selectmen